



Ashdown Safety

Lifts and Lifting Operations

Lifts and Lifting Operations

The Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 (LOLER) cover a wide range of equipment including cranes, vehicle inspection hoists, lifts, hoists, high lift pallet trucks, fork-lift trucks, mobile elevating work platforms, patient hoists, lorry mounted cranes and. This also includes lifting accessories (sometimes called lifting tackle) such as pulleys, slings, chains, hooks, and eyebolts etc.

Lifting equipment includes any equipment used at work for lifting or lowering loads (whether that is goods or people) including attachments used for anchoring, fixing or supporting it.

Lifting-equipment hazards

- Falling loads
- Trapping in wheels, pulleys etc
- Falling out of lifting areas and equipment or from openings
- Crushing
- slipping loads or equipment due to water, oil, ice, dust, etc
- Falling loads due to incorrect slinging
- Collision with goods or traffic, person.
- Electric shock from defective or unsafe wiring or contact with overhead power lines
- Collapse due to a mechanical defect or from use on uneven or soft surfaces (jacks, hoists, skip loaders etc)

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Recommendations to employers

- Lifting equipment must not be used to move loads heavier than the SWL.
- Lifting equipment must only be used by people who have been suitably trained.
- Where equipment is used ensure it is marked accordingly, it should be safe for such a purpose; ie equipment should be specifically designed for lifting people and all necessary precautions have been taken to eliminate or reduce risk.
- Determine an inspection frequency for lifting equipment, which complies with the legal requirements.
- Risk assessments must be prepared for all lifting operations and all lifting equipment must be marked with its safe working load (SWL).
- Record examination and supplementary inspection findings.
- Ensure that user checks are undertaken before use and routine maintenance is conducted.
- Take to ensure defective equipment is taken out of use and action to rectify any defects in equipment.
- Never allow employees to stand under a suspended load.
- Store all lifting equipment and facilities correctly and securely.
- Ensure all lifting are carried out in a safe manner activities are properly planned, supervised and that employees have received the necessary information, instruction and training for the work and equipment used.
- Appoint a competent person (normally an engineering insurance inspection company) to test and examine lifting equipment before first use and on a periodic basis in accordance with a planned inspection frequency

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Legal duties

- The Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 (LOLER): specifically the selection, use and operation of lifting equipment.
- The Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER): apply to all work equipment including that used for lifting.
- The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (MHSWR): impose duties to carry out risk assessments.
- Section 2 of The Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 (HSWA): requires all employers to ensure, as far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of all their employees.
- Section 3 of The Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 (HSWA): requires all employers to ensure, as far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety of those who are not employees but may be affected by the employers work activity.
- The Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992 relates to personal protective equipment required to be used to avoid risks.

Did you know?

- LOLER applies to new equipment or second-hand, leased or that belonging to employees and is used for the employer's work.

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Please contact us using our contact form if you have any queries regarding our Health and Safety services, or if you would like to order.

Email us at: admin@ashdowncpd.com or call us at: 01342 545004

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References:

1. Barbour (barbour.info)
2. www.hse.gov.uk